

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Assessment
Water Quality Assessment Division

2006 Integrated Report on Water Quality

In accordance with the Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), notice is hereby given for solicitation of comments for the update of Volume 5: Water Quality Inventory. Updates to Volume 5 of the WQMP have been made through development of the 2006 Integrated Report on Water Quality and the associated Integrated Report Rationale.

The 2006 Integrated Report is a two-part report. The first is an assessment of all waters in the State and is conducted every even-numbered year to meet requirements of the Clean Water Act, §305(b). The second part, also conducted every even-numbered year, identifies, lists, and ranks impaired water bodies that require a more in-depth technical analysis to determine the maximum loading of a pollutant a water body can receive and how much reduction in loading is needed to maintain water quality standards. This technical analysis is known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Requirements of this portion of the Integrated Report are found in the Clean Water Act §303(d).

The 2006 Integrated Report has been prepared using existing and readily available water quality data and information in order to comply with rules and regulations under Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Clean Water Act. In addition to water quality data collected by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), additional data is being solicited from the public and will be considered during preparation of the final Integrated Report.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments for the record on the 2006 Integrated Report and Rationale. **Comments must be received no later than October 27, 2006, at 4:30 p.m.**, and should be addressed to Mr. Albert E. Hindrichs, Office of Environmental Assessment, P.O. Box 4314, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821-4314, or by E-mail at Al.Hindrichs@LA.GOV. The report and associated documents may be viewed on the LDEQ web site at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/69/Default.aspx>. Those unable to access the web site are encouraged to check with their local library for access. For additional information please contact Mr. Hindrichs at (225) 219-3590.

Mr. Wilbert Jordan
Assistant Secretary